

COUNTRY	Soviet Union		REPORT NO.	
TOPIC	Long-Distance Gas Line Saratov-Moscow			
EVALUATION	25X1X	PLACE OBTAINED	25X1A	
DATE OF CONTENT		25X1C	ANNEX II	
DATE OBTAINED		DATE PREPARED	24 May 1950	
REFERENCES				
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REMARKS				

SOURCE

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1. Construction and equipment of the line :

a. Construction was started during the war. The pipes were laid in a depth of 2 to 2½ meters. The bottom of the ditch was 1½ to 2 meters wide. Seamless tubes, almost exclusively of American origin, were used. It was observed in only two sections that seamless pipes of German (Mannesmann) and Russian origin had also been used.

b. The ends of the pipes were electrically welded together except where bends, derivations, feeder lines and curvatures were inserted. Estimates on the inner width of the pipes varied from 30 to 50 cm, but were mostly 35 cm. The wall thickness also was said to be 2 to 3 cm. The length of the pipes depends on the nature of the terrain and ranges between 5 and 25 meters. Most estimates were 12 to 15 meters.

c. In most cases insulation is done by wrapping round stripes of cotton or jute which are later tarred. In certain sections the pipes were only tarred.

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d. All the tools used for earth work, especially the large excavators, were of American origin. The other technical material components of fittings, pressure regulators, valves, measuring instruments etc. also came from America.

e. When crossing large rivers, the pipe line was embedded in the bottom of the river.

2. Auxiliary plants :

The information on compressor and pump stations for the conveyance of natural gas are conflicting. Engineers employed in the construction work of the line stated that the main compressor stations are erected at regular intervals of about 100 to 150 km with intermediate pump stations every 40 to 60 km. There are also control stations and pressure regulators at smaller intervals, allegedly every 10 km. The long-distance gas line runs parallel to the main telephone line Saratov-Moscow and the main high road.

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☐ Comment :

As far as could be determined there are main compressor stations near Saratov (51°34'N/46°02'E), in Kologrivovka, Atkarsk (51°50'N/45°00'E), Rtishchevo (52°15'N/43°47'E), Kirsanov (52°38'N/42°43'E), Tambov (53°43'N/41°27'E), Morshansk (53°26'N/41°49'E), Ryazan (54°40'N/39°40'E) and before Moscow (55°45'N/37°35'E).

The 843-km long pipe line was put into operation in July 1946. Full capacity, with a daily gas supply to Moscow of 1.3 million cubic meters, was reached in the Summer of 1947.

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